

CH-771

Circa 1925;1935;1950

Marbury Church of God Rectory

Marbury

Private

Erected around 1925, the Marbury Church of God Rectory is an altered example of a one-story Victorian cottage of which there are several surviving examples in the vicinity. Heavily shaded by large trees, the dwelling stands directly on the east side of Bicknell Road in the village of Marbury, across from the Marbury Church of God. The original four-room cottage has been extended by a rear 1930's addition, and more drastically, a 1950's addition to the front elevation. The Marbury Church of God was established locally in 1911 and shortly afterwards, property for the first church was provided by Mrs. Ora Abell Clark. In 1926, the Indian Head Building and Loan Association deeded the property to the Trustees of the Church of God at Marbury.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CH-771

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Church of God Rectory
other

2. Location

street and number 4800 Bicknell Road not for publication
city, town Marbury vicinity
county Charles

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Kenneth and Nancy Long
street and number 4800 Bicknell Road telephone 301-753-8409
city, town ~~La Plata~~ Marbury state MD zip code 20658

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Charles County Planning tax map and parcel: 20 p.118
city, town La Plata liber 2638 folio 466

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report
☐ Other

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	1
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	1
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			0

7. Description

Inventory No. CH-771

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Marbury Church of God Rectory is an altered example of a one-story Victorian cottage of which there are several surviving examples in the vicinity. Heavily shaded by large trees, the dwelling stands directly on the east side of Bicknell Road in the village of Marbury, across from the Marbury Church of God. The original four-room cottage has been extended by a rear 1930's addition, and more drastically, a 1950's addition to the front elevation. Presumably the front gable and porch, present on unaltered examples located nearby, were removed or incorporated into the 1950's addition. Surviving examples on Marbury Run Road include late-Victorian spindlework adorning the porch. After 1950, the dwelling appears to have changed little since this time and retains an intact circa 1950 kitchen and early the mid 20th century woodwork, windows and doors.

The original structure has an infilled concrete pier foundation and a frame covered in asbestos shingles. The simple cottage included four rooms with a centered diagonally placed chimney heating the kitchen and front parlor. Each of the original four rooms includes either a single window or in the case of the kitchen a paired window. The rear addition added a bedroom, bathroom and small sitting room over a cellar. The additions to the front and rear rest on continuous concrete block foundations.

8. Significance

Inventory No. CH-771

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates 1926 **Architect/Builder** unknown

Construction dates 1926

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register ☐ Maryland Register ☐ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

Erected after 1926, the Marbury Church of God Rectory is an altered example of cottage Victorian architecture in western Charles County. It is significant as a resource in the early 20th century village of Marbury. In 1926, the Indian Head Mutual Building and Loan Association deeded a little under 1/2 acre to the trustees for Marbury Church of God. In 1943 the property was sold to Spencer and Annie Laverne Milstead. The property remained in the Milstead family until 1996 when it was sold to the current owners.

The single most important and long-lasting industry established in Charles County during this period was the naval ordnance manufacturing plant built at Mattawoman Neck in 1890. The Naval Proving Ground was moved to Mattawoman Neck when transportation from the former Proving Ground at Annapolis to the Naval Gun Factory in Washington, DC became too dangerous. Nearly nine hundred acres of land was purchased for the proving ground, and later supplemented by an additional ten thousand acres on Stump Neck. In 1898, the Naval Powder Factory was constructed, and the first powder was manufactured in 1900. During World War I, transportation to and from the factory was improved by the construction of a railroad spur from White Plains in 1917.

Although the Proving Ground was moved to Dahlgren, Virginia in 1921, the plant continued to operate and began tests that would lead to the development of jet propulsion and rocket testing at the naval station. From the beginning, the plant and proving ground provided an important and stable center of employment for the county. During the war years, the plant expanded, requiring more laborers. The town of Indian Head grew up just opposite the gates of the installation. The Navy contributed to the housing and education of its employees and their children by building housing and a school at Indian Head.

Marbury was connected to the proving ground at first by a locally built narrow footbridge and after 1917 by a unique hand drawn footbridge that allowed coal barges to proceed upstream in Mattawoman Creek. Congressman Sydney Mudd was the driving force behind the federally funded footbridge construction stating that, "The purposes of this bridge is to afford direct and convenient communication to the government employees, for nearly 50% of them have homes on the Marbury side of the Creek. Further evidence of the impact on the proving ground to the adjoining region can be found in census records from 1890-1920. Not only was the election district of Pomonkey, including Indian Head and Marbury, the only area of growth. Between 1910 and 1920 the population nearly doubled from 1589 to 3,124. In 1920, a new census district was established in Marbury having a population of 1,392.

The village of Marbury is situated on high ground on the former plantation of the Marbury family. During the early 20th century, Marbury included a post office and barber shop as well as Twiford's Store and Lumber Yard. Most of the town residents were in some way dependent on Indian Head for their livelihood.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No CH-771

Name Church of God Rectory

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

In 1916, Thomas Wright of the nearby Wright House CH-763, sold to James Albert Murdock 1 3/8 acres, which was part of a larger tract Wright had recently mortgaged from the Indian Head Mutual Building and Loan Association. The Murdock's retained the property until 1970. It is unclear whether or not the Murdock's occupied the house. According to 1920 census records J. Albert Murdock was the 29 years of age and employed as a sheet metal worker at the nearby powder factory. His wife Ruth, age 23 and two sons under the age of three. (1)

The Marbury Church of God was established locally in 1911 when Rev. T.M. Bowie, a resident of Northern Virginia began distributing religious literature. Several evangelical meetings were held shortly afterwards beginning on the property of Marbury merchant L.G. Doane. Shortly afterwards, property for the first church was provided by Mrs. Ora Abell Clark. In 1922, the Marbury Church of God received it's first regular pastor, Rev. and Mrs. H.D. Freeman.

Endnotes

(1) Charles County Land Records, Liber 30, Folio 8.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. CH-771

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property .41

Acreage of historical setting .41

Quadrangle name Indian Head

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The property is associated with Charles County Property Tax Map 20, Grid 22, parcel 118.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Cathy Hardy/Historic Sites Surveyor

organization Charles County Planning

date 6/3/2003

street and number 200 Baltimore Street

telephone 301-396-5815

city or town La Plata

state MD zip code 20646

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032
410-514-7600

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-771

Section 8 Page 1

Marbury Church of God Rectory

name of property

Charles County, MD

county and state

Chain of Title:

- | | |
|------|--|
| 1998 | Spencer W. Milstead heirs to Kenneth W. Long, Sr. and Nancy I. Long
2638/466 |
| 1943 | Trustees of Church of God at Marbury to Spencer W. and Annie Laverne Milstead
2 parcels
78/365 |
| 1926 | (Parcel 1) Indian Head Building and Loan Association to Trustees of Church of
God at Marbury. Buildings & Improvements.
45/677 |

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-771

Section 9 Page 1

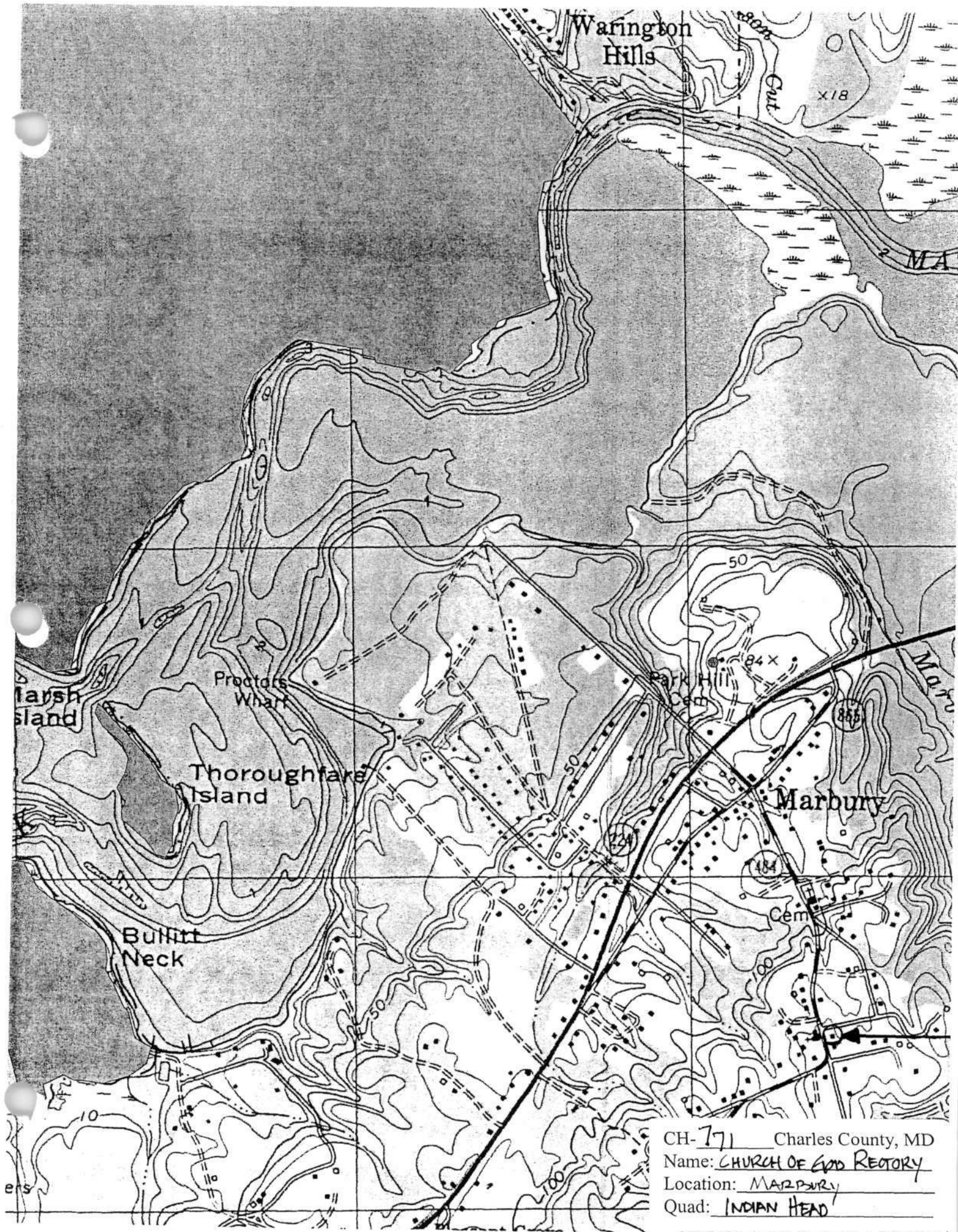
Marbury Church of God Rectory
name of property
Charles County, Maryland
county and state

Major Bibliographic References:

Brown, Jack D., et al. Charles County, Maryland, A History.
Charles County Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

Charles County Land Records, Charles County Courthouse, La Plata, Maryland.

Klapthor, Margaret Brown. The History of Charles County, Maryland.
La Plata, MD: Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., 1958.



CH-771 Charles County, MD
Name: CHURCH OF END RECTORY
Location: MARBURY
Quad: INDIAN HEAD



CH-771

CHURCH OF GOD RECTORY

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

C. HARDY

11/02

MD

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10p4



CH-771
CHURCH OF GOD RECTORY
CHARLES CO., MD

C. HARDY

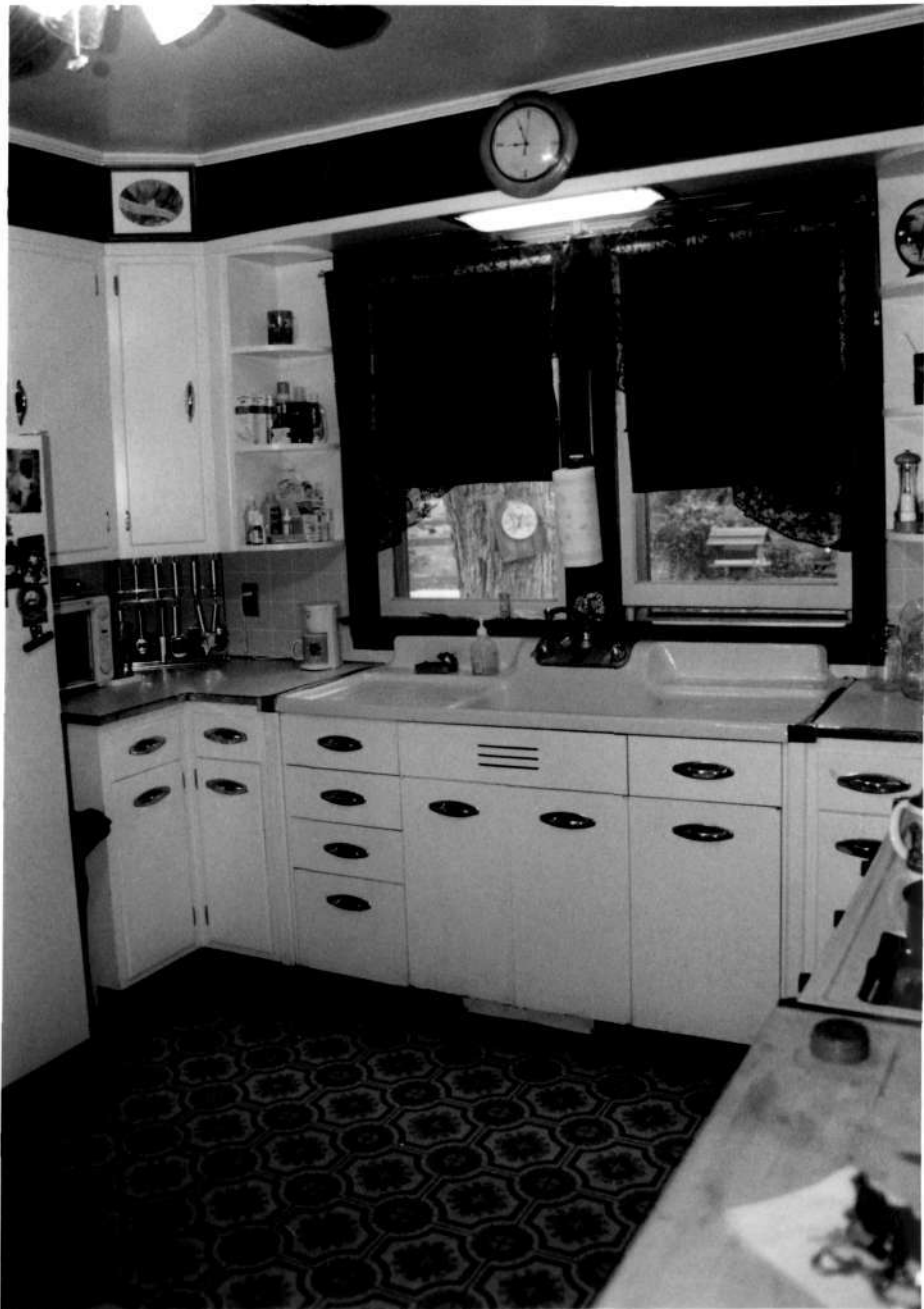
11/02

MD

LOOKING @ SE

2 OF 4

SHPO



PROFESSIONAL
CH-771

CHURCH OF GOD RECTORY

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

C. HARDY

11/02

~~SHPO~~

MD

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KITAHEN

30P4



CH-771
CHURCH OF GOD RECTORY
CHARLES CO., MD
C. HARDY

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